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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 33rd and 39th meetings, on 9 May and 29 June 2017. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records.[1]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the United Nations Mission in Liberia for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 (A/71/645);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Mission in Liberia for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/847);

(c) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/71/836/Add.16).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/71/L.43

4. At its 39th meeting, on 29 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia" (A/C.5/71/L.43),

[1] A/C.5/71/SR.33 and A/C.5/71/SR.39.

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submitted by the Chair of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Cyprus.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/71/L.43 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia,[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1497 (2003) of 1 August 2003, by which the Council declared its readiness to establish a United Nations stabilization force to support the transitional government and to assist in the implementation of a comprehensive peace agreement in Liberia,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1509 (2003) of 19 September 2003, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Liberia for a period of 12 months, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 2333 (2016) of 23 December 2016, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission for a final period until 30 March 2018 and requested the Secretary-General to complete by 30 April 2018 the withdrawal of all uniformed and civilian components, other than those required to complete the Mission's liquidations,

Recalling further its resolution 58/315 of 1 July 2004,

Recalling its resolution 58/261 A of 23 December 2003 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 70/278 of 17 June 2016,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of its resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006, 61/276 of 29 June 2007, 64/269 of 24 June 2010, 65/289 of 30 June 2011, 66/264 of 21 June 2012, 69/307 of 25 June 2015 and 70/286 of 17 June 2016, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Liberia as at 30 April 2017, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 51,811,360 United States dollars, representing some 0.7 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only 76 Member States have paid

[1] A/71/645 and A/71/847.

[2] A/71/836/Add.16.

their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that proposed peacekeeping budgets are based on the relevant legislative mandates;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Decides* to abolish one post (P-3 Human Rights Officer);

10. *Recalls* paragraph 31 of its resolution 70/286 and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to fully comply with the relevant rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, the United Nations environmental and waste management policy and procedures, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mission takes effective measures to reduce its environmental footprint during its closure, including the restoration of premises to their original status, as appropriate, while absorbing the associated costs;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266, 61/276, 64/269, 65/289, 66/264, 69/307 and 70/286;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all action necessary to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

Budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

13. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016;[3]

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

14. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Liberia the amount of 116,954,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, inclusive of 110,000,000 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 5,563,000 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 1,391,000 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;

[3] A/71/645.

Financing of the appropriation

15. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 116,954,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 70/246 of 23 December 2015, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2017 and 2018, as set out in its resolution 70/245 of 23 December 2015;

16. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 5,268,300 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 4,676,200 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 485,300 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 106,800 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

17. *Further decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other revenue in the total amount of 47,715,400 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2016, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 70/246, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2016, as set out in its resolution 70/245;

18. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other revenue in the total amount of 47,715,400 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2016, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 17 above;

19. *Also decides* that the increase of 308,000 dollars in the estimated staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2016 shall be added to the credits in the amount of 47,715,400 dollars referred to in paragraphs 17 and 18 above;

20. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

21. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel participating in the Mission under the auspices of the United Nations, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

22. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia".